

Amendments to the Specification:

Please insert the following new paragraph on page 1, between lines 2 and 3, directly following the title of the invention:

-- Cross Reference to Related Application

This application claims priority of German patent application no. 102 42 816.6, filed September 14, 2002, the entire content of which is incorporated herein by reference. --

The paragraph starting at page 5, line 19, is amended and now reads as follows:

-- The armature plate 5 is disposed centrally on a spider flexure spring 13 on the side 34 facing away from the coil 2. The spider flexure spring 13 is shown in FIG. 2. The spider flexure spring 13 includes a peripherally-extending edge 16 which is fixed on the housing 6. The edge 16 is connected to a central attachment section 18 via three rotationally symmetrically arranged arms 17. The armature plate 5 is fixed on the central attachment section 18. The ~~arms 13~~ arms 17 extend from the edge 16 spirally to the attachment section 18. The spider flexure spring 13 centers and guides the armature plate 5 and applies a reset force to the armature plate 5 in the direction toward the housing cover 7. The spider flexure spring 13 has breakthroughs 36 between the arms 17. --

The paragraph starting at page 6, line 2, is amended and now

reads as follows:

-- The valve 1 functions to fluidly connect one or several first flow channels 8 to a second flow channel 9 which is shown in the embodiment of FIG. 1 as the discharge. The second flow channel 9 opens on the side 34 of the armature plate 5 facing away from the coil 2 and communicates with the housing outer side via breakthroughs 10 in the housing cover 7. With the current flow shut off, the iron core 3 and the yoke 4 generate no force on the armature plate 5 so that the armature plate 5 is pressed against the stop 14 by the spider flexure spring 13 and the flow channel 8 is fluidly connected to the second flow channel 9 via the annular gap 11. With the current flow in the ~~coil 7~~ coil 2 switched on, the coil 2 generates a magnetic field in the iron core 3 and the yoke 4 via which the magnetic armature plate 5 is pulled. The armature plate 5 then lies against the contact surface 20 on the housing 6 and closes the first flow channel 8 fluid tight. --